

## DICOM Correction Item

Correction Number		CP-86	
Log Summary: Documenting of Repeating Sequences, Attribute Macros			
Type of Modification		Name of Standard	
		PS 3.3 - 1996	
Rationale for Correction: If two or more Sequences have the same Attributes, it is confusing and decreases the readability of the Standard if the Attributes are repeated several times in the tables. The current proposal suggests to define the Attributes of the Sequences once outside the Module.			
Sections of Document Affected: As indicated below.			
Correction Wording: See text below.			

### Add to Part 3 Definitions Section 3.8

**Attribute Macro:** a set of Attributes that are described in a single table that is referenced by multiple Module or other talbes.

### Add new section to Part 3, Section 5.5:

#### 5.5 Attribute Macros

Some tables contain references to Attribute Macros. This convention is used in cases where the same Attributes are used in multiple tables or multiple places in one Module. The reference means that the Attributes of the Attribute Macro shall be included in the Module in place of the row that contains the reference to the Attribute Macro.

In some cases, the Attribute Macro is used in a Sequence (the VR of the Data Element in which the Attribute is encoded is SQ, see PS 3.5). When this is done, the reference is preceded by one or more "<" characters. The number of "<" characters indicates the level in the sequence that all of the Attributes in the Attribute Macro occupy.

There may be specialization of the description of the Attributes in the Attribute Macro. In these cases, this specialization is described in the Description column of the Module.

Following is an example of this convention.

Table 5.5-1 is an example of a Module table using the Attribute Macro convention.

**Table 5.5-1  
Example Module Table**

Attribute Name	Tag	Type	Attribute Description
Attribute A	(aaaa,aaaa)	1	This is an example.
Attribute B Sequence	(bbbb,bbbb)	1	This is an example of a Sequence Attribute

>Include 'Example Macro' Table 5.5-2

In this Module, Attribute D (dddd,dddd) is Type 1

Table 5.5-2 is an example of the Attribute Macro referenced in Table 5.5-1.

**Table 5.5-2**  
**Example Macro**

<b>Attribute Name</b>	<b>Tag</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Attribute Description</b>
Attribute C	(cccc,cccc)	1	This is an example.
Attribute D	(dddd,dddd)	3	This Attribute is generally a Type 3

The contents of the Example Module Table, if it had not been described with the Example Macro would have been as shown in Table 5.5-3

**Table 5.5-3**  
**Example Module Table without the Use of an Attribute Macro**

<b>Attribute Name</b>	<b>Tag</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Attribute Description</b>
Attribute A	(aaaa,aaaa)	1	This is an example.
Attribute B Sequence	(bbbb,bbbb)	1	This is an example of a Sequence Attribute
>Attribute C	(cccc,cccc)	1	This is an example.
>Attribute D	(dddd,dddd)	1	In this Module, this Attribute has been specialized to Type 1 as indicated in Table 5.5-1